HALL - DAVIS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE OF MASSACHUSETTS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 8, 1984

ROSS CAMPAIGN SUBMITS PETITIONS

Supporters of Laura Ross, Communist Party candidate for Congress in the Eighth Congressional District, have filed nominating petitions seeking to secure the Communist candidate a place on the November ballot.

Ross, an active trade unionist for many years and a resident of Brighton, is seeking the Congressional seat presently held by House Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill. The Ross campaign has stressed the need to strongly reject the policies of the Reagan administration, and has emphasized Speaker O'Neill's inability to provide leadership in this critical area.

"You can be sure that I will not 'play ball' with President Reagan," Ross said. The Ross campaign has put forward an anti-monopoly program of "People Before Profits" as the best solution to the Reagan administration's offensive against peace and progress.

A well-known community activist, Ross has a long history of involvement in movements for social change, including the fight to establish Social Security and racial equality. She has represented the Communist Party twice before in bids for the Eighth Congressional seat during 1974 and 1978.

As a part of their candidate's congressional campaign, Ross supporters have had to face a restrictive regulation requiring independent political parties, including the Communist Party, to submit 3400 valid voter signatures within a ten week period to gain ballot status. This requirement, in effect, demands 5000 signatures to ensure a successful effort.

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The Ross campaign has been hampered in their attempts to meet the signature requirement by the refusal of Mall owners to permit campaign supporters access to their properties throughout much of the campaign. Donald B. Halfkenny, speaking on behalf of the Ross campaign, has indicated that an extension of the ten week period would be sought, using the Serette-Hall/Davis decisions as legal precedents.

The Communist Party locally, in addition to the Ross campaign, is presenting Edward Teixeira as a candidate for the United States Senate seat being vacated by Paul Tsongas. The Communist Party nationally has put forward Gus Hall and Angela Davis as candidates for President and Vice President.

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